"By righteousness I hold fast, and will not let it go."
—Job 27.6

JUSTICE

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

"Workers of the world unite! You have nothing to lose but your chains."

Vol. 10, No. 9 | NEW YORK, N. Y., FRIDAY, MARCH 2, 1928 | PRICE 3 CENTS

Ladies' Tailors Hold Election On March 9

Vote All Day for Local Officers and Convention Delegates in Bryant Hall

The annual election of officers in Local 38, the ladies tailors' and private dressmakers' union of New York, coincides this year with the election of convention delegates, and the balloting for both takes place on Friday, March 9, in the big Bryant Hall, 42nd Street and Sixth Avenue.

The committee on objection concluded its work last week, and the ballots will be priated in a few days. Several "lefts' who wanted to run for office were found by the committee far behind in union dues despite the fact that they were employed all the time and are constantly professing to "love the proletariat".

All candidates without exception were requested to sign a pledge of loyalty to the International Union, promising not to take any instruction with regard to Union matters from any outside body and further agreeing that, in the event it should be found out that they had signed the pledge in bad faith, that they would be automatically suspended from office.

Shop Chairmen Vote To Work Full Day For Union Campaign Fun

Great Meeting of Shop Heads Authorizes Board to Make Arrangements—Workers V Allowed to Work Next Two Saturdays a Contribute Half of Wages to Union's President Sigman, Manager Hochman, President Dubinsky, Chairman Stoller Addres Chairmen—Earnings Voted for "A More Vigorous Campaign"—One Hour for Miners

On Saturday, February 25, the chairmen in the cloak and dress industry of New York, emulating the example set by shop heads in this industry in former years, voted, at a huge meeting at Arlington Hall, to place the cloak and dress unions on a sound financial basis to carry on unchecked the great organizing drive which the Joint Board is now conducting in all parts of New York City and in the outlying districts.

Before the meeting, which was attended by more than 700 chairmen, was opened, Bro. Harry Wander, the secretary of the Joint Board, in a few words outlined the purpose of the meeting, and introduced Max Stoller, president of the Joint Board, as chairman. Bro. Stoller reviewed the past fifteen months' activity of the Joint Board, describing the trying times through which it had passed and recounting the gains and achievements scored during this period. "But this work of rebuilding is hard, uphill labor, "he ... cluded, "and ... loyal men and women in the shops should realize it and give their Union a lift; the work of the Union should go on until the goal is reached."

Bro. Stoller was followed by General Manager Julius Hochman who was given an ovation when he concluded his talk. He said in part:

(Continued on Page 2)

Boston Board Settles With All Associations

Cloak Association Signs Union ... Dress Group and Cloak Con... to Sign Agreements

... to press, a telephone mes... n Joint Board Manager Sol ... from Boston sums up the lo... ation as follows:

... signed last night collective ... ement with the new cloak em... yers' association, the New England ... at and Suit Manufacturers' Associa... ion. They conceded all union terms, including 42-hour five-day week, Prosanis Label, safety, sanitation, fire drills, and union shops. They withdrew all their counter-demands completely. Miss Annie Weinstock of the Federal Labor Department was of substantial assistance in reaching peace.

"We also signed this morning with the Cloak Contractors' Association on full union terms. Yesterday morning we signed the agreement with the New England Dress Manufacturers, Mr. A. J. Colpack, president, affixing the signature for the employers. There are still a few cloak shops to be cleared up, and we shall take care of these at once. After that, several remaining non-union dress shops will be tackled and, we hope, with success.

"We had last night a meeting with all the cloak workers whom we kept out from the shops pending the settlement with the new association, and they accepted unanimously the terms of the new agreement. All will be back at work before the day is over. More next week."

Impartial Chairman Conference Lists Big Union Headway

Conference of All Groups in Cloak Industry Proves Union Has Made Great Advance in Organizing Unorganized Portions of Trade—Work Flowing Back in Union Channels—15 New Shops Out Tuesday

Big progress has been made by the International in forcing production of cloaks and suits back into union channels from which it has strayed in great quantities before and during the last general strike in 1926, it was definitely stated at a conference of all cloak factors held on Monday, Feb. 27, before Impartial Chairman Raymond V. Ingersoll.

The organizations represented, besides the Union, were as follows: Industrial Council of Cloak, Suit and Skirt Manufacturers, Inc., the Merchants' Ladies' Garment Association and the American Cloak and Suit Manufacturers' Association.

Stastistics presented by the union show that 95 shops have been settled in the past three weeks, the majority of these having joined the American association. The imp... al machinery has been actively seeking information about non-union production, also. One hundred and five shops have been investigated as far as their books are concerned, under the direction of the impartial chairman. It was indicated, also, that the union will continue its drive against

(Continued on Page 2)

Organization Activity In New York Trades Given Fresh Impetus

Committees from Non-Union Shops Plead for Union Help—No Sweat Shops Will Be Settled But Workers Will Be Given Regular Union Jobs, Says Chairman Fried

The shop chairmen's meeting last Saturday, and its decision to work a day for the Union's organization fund, has added impetus and zest to the organizing drive which the Joint Board is now conducting all over the Greater City.

During the week, a number of delegations from non-union shops visited organization headquarters at 130 East 25th Street, and pleaded with Bro. H. Fried, chairman of the Organization Committee, to help them put their shops on a union work basis. Bro. Fried promised to take care of these appeals without delay, and quick action is now expected to follow.

"We shall not deal with the sweat shop bosses, nor shall we sign them as union employers," Bro. Fried declared in commenting on increased activity at headquarters," these sweat shops are a menace and a permanent nuisance, and the only way to deal with them is to place the workers now employed in them in real union shops."

Br. Fried added that his committee is now securing the aid of all union workers employed in garment buildings to take down non-union shops. He repeated his warning given last week to "left" scab agents who are aiding the bosses in the non-union shops to stop interfering with union committees or pickets.

Tuckers' Union Warns Employers To Abide by Contract Terms

Secretary Baroff and Manager Greenberg Serve Notice on Shop Owners at Celebration Rally That Contract Must Be Lived Up To—Officers and Convention Delegates Nominated at Meeting

Local 41, the organization of the tuckers, pleaters and hemstitchers in New York City, held an unusually well-attended meeting on Washington's Birthday, at the Peoples' House, which business was combined with pleasure, and the discussion of union affairs was interspersed with refreshments and addresses that stressed the progres the Local had made since it was reorganized under the auspices of the International.

Vice president Harry Greenberg, who is also manager of Local 41, told the members that, in conformity with a decision of the executive board of the Local he sent a letter to President Landau of the employers' association in the tucking trade calling his attention to repeated violations by association members of the union contract, especially with regard to em-

(Continued on Page 3)

Raincoat Makers Remove Communist from Executive Board

"We Shall Not Permit Our Local Meetings to Be Turnd Into a Communist Madhouse" Members Declare—Abide Cheerfully by Decision of G. E. B.

The few Communists still remaining in Local 20, the raincoat workers' organization in New York City, received last Thursday, February 23, a finishing blow from which they will not recover. The meeting adopted a stinging resolution warning all Communists and their camp-trailers to "keep hands off Local 20," and ad-

(Continued on Page 2)

Shop Chairmen Vote Day's Work for Union Campaign

(Continued from Page 1)

"People are prone to forget the difficult, the unpleasant, but there are moments when it becomes a duty to refreshen the hardships of a recent past in order to clear the path of the future from pitfalls and traps.

"When we took over the Union fifteen months ago, we did not have even a skeleton of an organization left, except bare walls, debris instead of furniture, and a demoralized mass. We have converted the ruins into blooming trade unions in less than a year, and have in that year scored remarkable gains.

"We should not stop in themiddle ot the road; but I am afraid that, unless our workers give us generous aid, we shall be compelled to halt in our advance. Our greatest need is funds. And for this we need your aid, your assistance. Will you deny it at this crucial hour?"

The stormy applause which met Bro. Hochman's remarks indicated the mood in which the shop chairmen were. And their enthusiasm rose to even a higher pitch when President Sigman mounted the platform and was introduced as the "man who had saved the Union from the clutches of the Communist vandals."

President Sigman spoke, in part:

"The leaders of the Union have come here to ask you to support not their own enterprise but the enterprise of the cloak and dress workers, the enterprise of their families and their dependents.

"Our Union has faced a great many crises in its history, but its last crisis, the Communist invasion, was admittedly the worst calamity. It treachery came to us in the mantle of 'revolution,' and covered with a cloak of 'labor solidarity.' That's why its harm was the greatest; that why its effects are more lasting.

"But our sun is out again and our skies are once more clear. We are practically nearing the goal of our ambition; we are within sight of a thoroughly organized industry, and only a few laps separate us from the desired end. We must have the help of all our men and women in this final spurt; we must obtain means for financing our final drive, and, as during all our past history, we look to you, and to you only, for such aid.

"The workers in the shops are awakening. I see that in the dress trade 23 shops have decided to give their union a weekly contribution for organizing work. That's a wonderful spirit; that's splendid solidarity. Hundreds of shops should follow this remarkable example. Let this meeting set the pace mor such an expression of idealism on a large scale, and let us make possible the completion of our great reconstruction problem in the near future."

Several shop chairmen—Barman from the shop of Lefkowitz & Potofsky, Pine from Sadowsky's shop Block from Beller's shops, L. Levy, from Miller & Mendel's, and the chairmen from Schlossberg's, Fried & Zucker's, and Fredereick's spoke and heartily endorsed the appeal of the Union's leaders. Vice-president David Dubinsky followed with a speech that was received with an outburst of applause. He said, in part: "We must talk in hard, matter-of-fact language to our people today, as the time for phrases is past. We must look realities squarely in the face, for our own good and for the good of our industry. We didn't ask you to assist us financially until now because we knew your condition and, hard as we found our path, we did our best under the most difficult circumstances. We paid up during this period enormous debts that were left to us by the crooked gentry that had its filthy hands on our treasury. We have brought the Union back to a position of respect and influence in the industry, as you might convince yourselves daily from the statements which are appearing in the trade press. It is our opportunity now to complete the great task, while the season is on, but for this we must have additional funds. You can supply these [illegible] I, therefore, suggest that the Joint Board allow all the workers in the cloak and dress shops to work during the next two Saturdays, March 3 and 10, and that half of the earnings for these two days be turned over to the organizing fund of the Joint Board."

The chairmen not only rewarded Vice-president Dubinsky's proposals with generous applause, but proceeded to act upon it without delay. Chairman Stoller put the proposal to a vote in the form of a resolution, and this resolution was adopted by a rising vote of all the chairmen.

THE RESOLUTION.

WHEREAS, the organization work carried on by the Joint Board this season has had a very good effect upon the industry, and

WHEREAS, a more vigorous campaign must be carried on in order to bring back to our members real union conditions, and

WHEREAS, the 1926 Administration has left the Joint Board owing a large sum of money which debt must be met immediately, and

WHEREAS, our International has issued a call to all our members for one hour's work for the striking miners, be it therefore

RESOLVED, that we, the shop chairmen of the Cloak and Dress Industry, in meeting assembled at ARLINGTON HALL, 23 St. Marks Place, Saturday, February 25, 1928, decide: That the Joint Board permit the industry to work on Saturdays, March 3 and 10, 1928, full days and that one-half of the wages earned by each worker on those days be contributed to the Joint Board as a fund to be used for the purpose mentiond above. Be it further

RESOLVED, that we authorize the Joint Board to make such arrangements as it may deem necessary for the purpose of making the collection of the above mentioned contribution a success.

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Impartial Chairman Conference Registers Big Union Advance

(Continued from Page 1)

non-union shops.

There was a round table discussion of the situation which exists in the industry. The Union called upon the jobbers and manufacturers to see to it that no work is supplied to non-union contracting plants, holding that these latter establishments would fall of their own weight if they had to depend upon non-union jobbers to supply them with orders.

There was some argument about association shops and shops registered with the union. Not all the shops belonging to the American association, or to the Industrial Council for that matter, have had their workers registered 100 per cent with the union. The union, while adopting a tolerant attitude toward such establishments, nevertheless is determined to see to it that all workers in al shops are properly registered with the union.

Mr. Ingersoll later issued the following statement bearing on the conference:

"At the office of the i mpartial chairman yesterday there was a meeting of the joint ccommittee representing the four parties to the collective agreements. This is the committee whose special function it is to aid in carrying out the agreements so far as concerns the sources of production.

"At this meeting the fact was brought out that the accountants connected with the impartial chairman's office have during this season examined the books of 105 firms. While these examinations show a decided improvement in conditions since last season, a considerable amount of work is still going through unauthorized channels.

"As a result o fthese investigations jobbers and manufacturers — both independents and association members —have withdrawn their work from many shops.

"During the past three weeks 65 shops have settled with the union, about two-thirds of them going into the American Association. Four independent jobbers have joined the Merchants Association.

"It is the intention to go on vigorously with further investigations."

At the conference Harry Uvillier represented the contractors, Samuel Klein the Industrial Council, George Lewy the jobbers' association and Vice-president Julius Hochman the workers' organization.

Call Strike Against 15 Contractors

In line with the determination expresed by the union at the meeting of the joint commitee of the cloak and suit industry at the offices of Raymond V. Ingersoll on Monday, 15 union contracting shops were called out on strike Tuesday morning, and as many more will be called out before the day is over, Julius Hochman, general manager of the Joint Board of Cloak and Dress Makers announced Tuesday morning.

These union shops have been called on strike because they have been consistently violating labor agreements, and particularly the clause providing for week work, Bro. Hochman declared.

Union to Call From 30 to 50 Plants on Strike for Violating Week-Work Provisions of Past, Hochman Announces

Strikes will be called against 30 to 50 union contractors this week for working piece work, Juliuus Hochman general manager of the Joint Board of Cloak and Dress Makers, further announced.

The leaders of the Union have made the point, in discussing the alleged prevalence of illegal piece work in the New York market, that the extent of this condition has been greatly exaggerated by reports. They declared that the "inside" shops and a great number of contracting shops were observing the week work regulations.

A certain class of contracting shops, [illegible] have wrought havoc with union conditions generally, and that conspicuous among the violations to be found in these shops was that piece work was the rule.

In the attempt to equalize labor conditions throughout the market the union must take cognizance of such shops and so far as possible cause them to mend their ways, union officials declared. They believe that the organization departmest is sufficiently well geared by now to handle these shops with a minimum of difficulty.

Raincoat Makers Remove Communist From Their Local Executive Board

(Continued from Page 1)

monished such Communists as still hold cards in the local to "cease spreading lying anonymous attacks upon the union and to act like union men lest they be held responsible before the members."

This act of Local 20 was provoked by a statement, unsigned but obviously emanating from several Communists who still belong to Local 20, which appeared in the "Freiheit," Communist Jewish daily, on Feb. 16, under the caption, "Right Machine in Local 20 Resumes Pogrom Work," in which it was alleged on the authority of some Communist members of the local, that its administration had "squandered $20,000 of the union's treasury." Practically the entire meeting condemned this outrageous attack on the local and on its elected officers, and demanded that the Communists who had inspired this calumny be held for an accounting.

The meeting at once acted upon a communication from the General Executive Board of the International, and voted to expel Sam Saroff, a Communist party member, from the executive board. It further adopted a lengthy resolution in which the few Communists in the local, and their outside inspirers, were condemned in severe language, and pledged loyalty to the present officers of the local and to the International Union, "whose aims and purposes always have been for the economic betterment of the raincoat workers."

Among those who took part in the discussion and voted for the resolution and for the elimination of Saroff from the executive board were Brothers Rapoport, Sol Berkowitch, David Mason, Rubinstein, Weiselberg, Rubin, Gingold, Polinsky and Friedman.

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"Solidarity"

(A Short Story)
By SYLVIA KOPALD

When Gertrude Harris had completed her sophomore year at college, she determined to get a "vacation job." For she believed in other things beside Socialism and the working-class. Economic independence, for instance, was quite dear to her heart, even though it kept her pretty generally hard up. She was fortunate that summer. About a week after college closed, she had been installed in the clerical department of the Montgomery Watch Factory.

It was a busy place. Gertrude became quite interested in the folks about her. The other stenographers, typists and file clerks were largely young girls with whom she soon became fast friends. One day, Gertrude missed three of them. She looked across to Mary Knowles, her nearest neighbor, a fluffy little brunette who perpetually chewed gum.

"What's happened to Rose and Helen and Margie?" asked Gertrude.

"Say, ain't you heard? They was all fired, and I guess things don't look any too rosy for the rest of us."

"Why, what's happened?"

"Cheese it, kids," called a hoarse voice from behind them. "Here comes the big boss."

The steady clatter of typewriter keys filled the big room. From the distance the regular thud of a Burrough's 'adder' beat in upon their ears, while the pounding of heavy machines on the floor below came faintly up to them. The 'big boss' passed with three little snips, the merest children as yet, whom she escorted to the desk left vacant by the girls who had been discharged.

Mary looked across to Gertrude and shook her head.

When lunch [illegible] came, Gertrude could hardly wait until the 'bunch' with whom she always ate had come together.

"What does it mean," se began at once, "the girls gone and those others in their places?"

"Looka Gerty all excited," mocked Marian Dorry, a dazzingly pretty girl who flirted impartially with all the men in the office and always got her picture in the Montgomery Bulletin—"published for our employees and by our employes."

"Well, it ain't nothin' to laugh at," declared Harriet O'Brien, shaking her head till its carefully made curls bobbed jerkily back and forth. "Here they'll be takin' in those kids at less'n half they give us, and where are all of us going to land?"

"But can't one of you tell me what it's all about?" demanded Gertrude impatiently.

"Suree, sure. Don't get fussed, dearie," soothed Mary Knowles, chewing her food with the same slow regularity with which she chewed her gum. "You see it's this way. Those kids are going to commercial high school. Well, the school's made an arrangement by which they work one week and study one week. They get a bunch of jobs and send them to 'em in shifts, see? They get $8.00 a week which means they do the same work for eight we do for seventeen. So as they come in, we go out. Savvy?"

Gertrude was speechless for a moment. Then she spoke with quiet certainty.

"It's an outrage, that's what it is. You know what we ought to do? We ought to form a union and all strike until they quit it."

The girls turned on her. They began to speak all at once. Then they stopped suddenly until Harriet O'Brien took up the thread of their common thought. One after another they spun it out.

"Form a union! Hey, Gerty, what kinda company you been hanging around with anyway?"

"Ooh, maybe she's a Bullsheviki or something," laughed Mary.

But it was Marian's quiet conviction that clinched their argument.

"A union! Say, listen, Gerty, we're not that kinda workers."

Gertrude was amazed. She sat pondering it all while they laughed boisterously over Marian's story of one of her latest encounters with bashful Andy Black and discussed the big boss's style of clothes. She thought of it through the afternoon and evening.

The next day she determined to speak to the little high school girls. She waited until the lunch bell rang and then went over to their desks to ask them to have lunch with her. They seemed pathetically grateful for the apparently kindly disposed person in the openly hostile group. They walked out together while the others wondered what in the world Gerty was up to.

Gertrude kept to generalities until they had almost finished eating.

"Do you know that three girls were discharged to make way for you," she then said abruptly.

They looked at her in surprise.

"Sure, well that's the way it goes, ain't it?" replied little Helen Marks.

"Well, I suppose that wouldn't be so bad," replied Gertrude, "if you took their jobs at the same wages they were getting. But don't you see they were sent away only because you were willing to do the same work at less than half their pay? And you know we need the money. We're not Rockefellers. And don't you see Montgomery's taking advantage of you? He's paying you terrible little for a lot of work."

"Well, it ain't news to us that he's smarter than us. That's how he got rich, ain't it, by being smart?"

Gertrude gave them up in despair. Almost nothing could be done with them. But the passage of the weeks sadly justified Gertrude's warning. The next week three more experienced girls were sent away. The week after that four new high school girls came in to take the places left vacant by discharged "old ones." The office became tense with an uneasy nervousness. Every girl began to wonder if she'd be the next. When Gertrude stated her opinion once again they listened more respectfully.

"You see where it's all leading to. They're going to bring in all the others slowly and gradually. They can't afford to disorganize their work by discharging all the old $17 girls at one time and breaking in an entirely new force. It's the height of their season. But they're going to do it slowly. You're all going to lose your jobs sooner or later. Go out now. Don't form a union if you're so silly set against it. But act together. Tell'em if they don't quit you're all going out and stay out till they come to terms. They'll come all right."

Even Marian Dorry was convinced. That very afternoon they sent in an ultimatum to the office. Mr. Montgomery attempted to argue with them. Finally he said, "Well, I never suspected this of you, but I run my business in my own way. I'm sorry."

They went out. For a moment they were panic-stricken. But Gertrude heartened them.

Then a surprising thing happened. The watchmakers went out in a sympathetic strike. They were union men and said they could not tolerate even the principle of such an action. They would stick by the girls until they had won.

The girls were jubilant. They kept in continual touch with the men. Every day they got reports from them of how big orders were standing unfilled; of how the office work was completely disorganized. The reports seemed true, for in less than a week Mr. Montgomery offered terms. He called the girls into his office and told them that if they went back to work he would send away the high school girls and take back all who had been discharged. They accepted at once.

They came out and told Gertrude what had happened.

"But the watchmakers?" she exclaimed.

"Oh, I guess they can take care of themselves," remarked Marian, airily.

They were soon back at their desks. Outside a picketing watchmaker walked before the factory entrance.

Tuckers' Union Warn Employers

(Continued from Page 1)

ployment of non-union workers, the union wage scale, and the failure to pay time and-half for overtime. He urged that the matter be brought at once before the impartial chairman in this trade, Dr. Stephen S. Wise, for a hearing before further complications might force the union to take drastic measures against the violators.

Bro. Baroff, secretary of the International, who has helped a great deal in the reconstruction work of Local 41, compared the [illegible] the hemstichers' union, before the International had rid it of the clique of commissars, and its present flourishing situation, and urged the workers to continue to take a close interest in its affairs. He suggested that the girls who belong to the local form a social and educational group on the lines formed in Locals 22 and 89.

A few days prior, on February 16, Local 41 held another meeting at which candidates for all local offices and for convention delegates were nominated. An election and objection committee to pass on candidates' eligibility and to supervise the [illegible] tion was chosen at that meeting.

Unity House Reunion In Philadelphia

On Friday Evening, March 9, in Labor Institute Ballroom

Only one week remains to the Unity reunion and dance, which takes place in Philadelphia next Friday evening, March 9, in the beautiful ballroom of the Labor Institute, at 810 Locust Street. The committee is working tirelessly to make the affair a success.

The dance music will be provided by the excellent Neff Orchestra; tea and other refreshments will be served. Old friends will have an opportunity to meet again, and new friendships will be formed. Dancers and non-dancers may expect an enjoyable evening.

Tickets are only 75 cents, including wardrobe, and can be obtained at the office of Local 50, at 52 North 10th Street, or at 810 Locust Street, Philadelphia.

Our Philadelphia members should keep open Friday, March 9, for the Unity House Reunion!

Next Sunday's Soccer Game

The Brooklyn Wanderers have been scheduled for two interesting league matches this week-end. On Saturday at the Polo Grounds the Wanderers will play the Nationals and on Sunday at Hawthorne Field J. & P. Coats will be the attraction.

Bro. Frank Liberti Now In Cleveland

Aids Joint Board to Organize Italian Workers in Local Market

Bro. Frank Liberti, for many years organizer, business agent, and complaint clerk in Local 89, Italian dressmakers of New York, was asked last month by the General Office to take the post of Italian organizer in Cleveland.

The coming of Bro. Liberti to Cleveland has brought new life to Local 41, the Italian language ladies' garment workers' union of that city. In the past three weeks, Bro. Liberti has called a number of meetings, and, while the work is hard, he writes that he is confident that he will succeed in building up the local to a maximum of strength.

Bro. Liberti formerly acted also as organizer for the International in Mount Vernon, N. Y., and Plainfield, N. J. The majority of the Italian garment workers in Cleveland are finishers and pressers.

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MORRIS SIGMAN, President A. BAROFF, Secretary-Treasurer
MAX D. DANISH, Editor

Subscription price, paid in advance, $1.00 per year.

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EDITORIALS

A Day's Work For the Union!

More than 700 shop chairmen got together last Saturday in Arlington Hall in New York City and, without a dissenting voice, voted to work one of the next two Saturdays for their Union.

The cloak and dress workers have more than once in the past voluntarily assessed themselves for their organization. The history of their Union is fairly dotted with such expressions of organizational loyalty. Time and again in the last decade the Cloakmakers' Joint Board had levied as big as a twenty-dollar assessment on its members on the eve of a general clash with the employers, and collected the levy without any difficulty. The Labor world, in general, has come to accept the cloakmakers and dressmakers as a working-class group second to none in their readiness to support their Union without stint whenever the need occurs.

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Nevertheless, last Saturday's action of the shop chairmen is, in more than one sense, a historic event even for the New York cloak and dress organization. Taxes raised in former years by the Cloak Joint Board, as, for instance, the special funds levied in 1919 and 1921, were raised under normal circumstances, principally to finance an impending general strike. It was the logical, the expected thing to do in order to meet efficiently the exigency of the day. Our workers, the overwhelming majority of them, then as now, have been fully aware that the moderate weekly dues, barely sufficient for carrying on the daily activity of the organization, are wholly inadequate for the financing of a general conflict involving tens of thousands of workers.

But the day's work tax, voluntarily voted for by the shop chairmen last Saturday, is not for [illegible] though its purpose is not less compelling. It is the first time in the history of our Union that our members have taxed themselves to help rebuild and reinforce their organization. The cloak and dress workers' union in New York have recently emerged from a revolution which rocked them to their very foundation. We hardly need recapitulate here the tragic events of a recent past which is still too fresh in the minds of our members. All we might say is that the whole history of the American Labor movement does not record a more dastardly attempt to wreck the existence of a great trade union than the savage attack which the Communist outfit in this country had launched upon our Union a few years ago, an onslaught maneuvered with unparralleled cunning, cynicism and brutality.

Fortunately, all this is history today, though it is no secret to any of our members that this Communist adventure had nearly cost the life of the cloakmakers' organization and that it required a superhuman effort from the faithful and active trade union element in our midst to save it from going under. But the cloakmakers smashed to bits the Communist conspiracy, and by this crushing defeat they saved not only their own union but the organizations of the workers in the other needle trades—the tailors, the capmakers, the fur workers, the leather goods workers—and have driven the estwhile arrogant horde of trade-union wreckers from the labor movement reducing them to the position of a scab agency working in alliance with the outlawed non-union element of petty employers in all the garment trades.

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After a revolution follows reconstruction—and what a busy year we had put in in the past twelve months, trying to save as much as was humanly possible from the wreckage the destroyers had left behind, endeavoring to sweep out the apathy, the lawlessness, and the demoralization which submerged our industry and our shops during their ill-fated regime! It is easy to break down, but what a hard, nerve-trying, soul-testing task it is to rebuild, to reconstruct and to reorganize ranks demoralized by poisonous propaganda!

In that year we have achieved wonders. The whole world knows how in this brief space of the time we had actually brought back to life an organization which lay prostrate and helpless; how we had put the major part of the cloak industry back under union control, and made union work rules again the rules that govern work conditions in the shops.

But is it reasonable to expect that all the damage and ruin perpetrated by the Communist crew could be repaired in one year of even most ardent reconstructive work? Is it reasonable to expect that all the scabbery, the irresponsibility which they had fostered for years could be swept out in one season? Of course, not. The cloakmakers and dressmakers unions still have a lot to do before they could confidently assert that their whole industry, from end to end, is back, morally and materially, on a one-hundred per cent union basis. There are still a large number of employers to be brought to terms, still scores of scab nests to be weeded out; there are still hundreds upon hundreds of "open" shops, in the dress trade especially, that have to be brought into the fold of the Union.

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Can this great reconstruction activity be conducted on the meagre dues payments which the organization is now beginning to receive since the Spring season has begun—can the Union's burden be even partially lifted from this limited source of income while it is keeping up daily and weekly its forceful organizing drive in every sector of the cloak and dress trades, in every section of the Greater City?

The Joint Board left the answer to this question to the shop chairmen last Saturday, and their answer rang back in clear, heart-cheering tones. The Union should not halt its advance for the lack of funds! The great campaign should go on! The reconstruction work begun more than a year ago by the valiant group of self-sacrificing men and women who determined that the cloak and dressmakers' union shall not be allowed to perish, must be brought to a successful termination! Nothing less than a union in full control of work conditions in all the shops is our goal!

And this answer of the shop chairmen will be met with loyal acclaim in all the shops of the cloak and dress industry. A day's work for the union, a day's earnings to lift its hand in this struggle to make the voice of the workers as effective and as influential in the life of the industry as it used to be in the days when no enemy dared to challenge its control!

Cleveland Again Blazes the Way

The other day, we printed interesting news from Cleveland, which serves to emphasize that with regard to regulation of work standards Cleveland still retains its place of leadership among the ladies' garment markets in this country.

It was, namely, announced that the Cleveland Joint Board reached an understanding with the local manufacturers' association to establish a special fund that would make doubly secure the guarantee of 40 weeks of work to all workers in the Cleveland shops which has been in operation for several years past.

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The 40-week guarantee of employment in Cleveland is secured, as known, by a ten per cent payroll fund, deposited with a board of trustees. Under the rules governing that fund, workers whose employers fail to provide them with 40 weeks of work during the year receive half of their wages from that fund for as many weeks of that shortage. Employers who meet the guarantee in full receive their security back at the end of the year.

Under the same rules, the contractors were to deposit a similar ten per cent of their payroll to guarantee 40 weeks in their shops. But the Cleveland organization found it impossible to make the contractors abide by this rule, and, as a result, the workers in the contractors' shops, and also the workers in the trade who failed to secure any jobs at all, were left unprotected. After months of effort to find a solution, the Joint Board has now succeeded in gaining the employers' consent to the formation of a special one per cent payroll fund from all the employers in the trade that would be used to guarantee the 40 weeks in the contractors' shops and to aid the unemployed. The contractors, under the new arrangement, were absolved from taking part in the ten per cent security fund.

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The new fund, which will cover the workers in the contractor shops only, will make the operation of the 40 weeks' guarantee effective in all parts of the local trade, and serves therefore a valuable purpose. There are, however, involved in this new arrangement two principles boldly brought out by the Cleveland organization during the negotiations on this subject, which merit special attention.

First, is the proposition that the manufacturer who sends out work to be made up in a contractor shop is responsible for work terms in that shop under the general agreement. The 40 weeks' guarantee covers the whole Cleveland trade, but the contractors either couldn't or wouldn't deposit the ten per cent security, and therefore had made this guarantee practically inoperative in so far as their shops were concerned. By successfully invoking the argument that the manufacturer, or, as the case may be, the jobber is the responsible employer even in the shop of his contractor, the Cleveland Joint Board succeeded in securing from the manufacturers an additional guarantee of the 40 weeks of work in all shops, including the contractor shops.

Another important principle relates to the unemployed workers in the local industry. A basic part of the collective understanding in the Cleveland market which the Cleveland Union has never failed to emphasize is that the local industry owes a duty to all the workers in the local industry that it requires for its normal operation. This basic idea creates a spirit of collective responsibility for maintenance of uniform labor conditions in all shops, and it incidentally raises an obligation toward such of the workers, normally a part of the local industry, who, for some reason, remain unemployed. The new fund will give the jobless, or partly jobless workers some support, which, while doubtless not adequate enough to meet their needs, will, nevertheless, strengthen the Union's position with regard to the industry's responsibility for its workers.

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The membership of the International in the other cities will congratulate the Cleveland organization on its recent gain, which is but another rung on the ladder it is steadily climbing toward a more equitable and better organized system of work and earnings in the shops. The Cleveland workers owe their steady and uninterrupted advance to the splendid organizational and moral condition of their Union. The Cleveland market, as a whole, deserves sincere praise for the forward-looking attitude of the loyal em-

The Coat and Suit Industry, 1914-1925

By ELSIE GLUCK
(Research Dept. I. L. G. W. U.)

3.

THE General Executive Board in its report to the Philadelphia convention of 1925, pointed out the decline of the cloak, suit and skirt industry and the rise of the dress industry in the last decade. It indicated that a great portion of the industrial unrest came from the overcrowding in the cloak industry left by this decline, and suggested, then, as at its last meeting in January of 198, a better directed flow of union labor from the well-organized cloak into the less organized but nevertheless organizable dress industry.

It is interesting in this connection to analyze such figures as are available as to the decline of the cloak industry and the rise of the dress industry. The majority of the figures are for the entire country, although some special figures for New York City have been obtained. Except where so indicated, the figures are those of the United States Census Bureau and the percentages are based on these figures.

Twenty Thousand Cloakmakers Forced to Leave Industry

1. The following figures are taken from the estimates given in the study of the Clothing and Textile Industries made in 1925 for the "Regional Plan of New York and its Environs." They are based on figures of the state factory inspectors for New York State.

	1900	1917	1922
Cloaks, suits and skirts....	23,753	50,488	41,989
Dresses and waists.....	17,922	57,195	58,235

More recently, the thoroughgoing report of the Governor's Commission shows that the number of workers in the cloak industry has decreased to 35,000 in the Metropolitan area of New York. In other words, since 1917 there has been a decrease of 15,000 workers in the city alone, throwing almost a third of the original number out of employment, altogether.

Moreover, these 35,000 remaining workers suffered intensely from unemployment, the Governor's Commission report showing the great majority of them worked less than half the year. It is probably this unemployment which accounts for much lower figure of New York cloakmakers given by the United States census for 1921,—28,991. This estimate represents the average number of wage earners as contrasted with the total number who depend on the industry for their earning.

The following percentages based on the average earners in the United States in all branches of the industry show the decline of the number of cloakmakers in the country as a whole:

Comparison of the number of wage earners in various branches of the industry.

Branch	1914	1919	1921
Total.....	100	100	100
Cloaks, suits and skirts.....	39.5	30.7	28.4
Waists and dresses	37.6	39.1	37.
Wrappers and housedresses....	4.7	4.2	4.5
Underwear and and petticoats..	12.7	12.4	12.7
All others.....	5.5	13.6	17.4

In other words, while the percentage in all other branches of the total number of workers remained stationary or increased that of the cloakmakers from 1914-21 dropped almost by one-third from 66,786 in 1914 to 41,187 in 1921.

The averages for the entire country confirm the findings for New York City alone—almost one-third of the cloakmakers employed in the industry in the period 1914-1917 were thrown out of employment completely in the period 1921-1925 and the remainder fared ill in point of view of number of weeks of employment.

Total Value of Products Increases

2. During the period under consideration, 1914-1925, the value of products manufactured did not decline as did the number of workers. On the contrary, in all but the period between 1923-1925, the value of manufacutred products increased. But whereas in the cloak industry, the value of products in 1925 was twice as great as in 1914, in the waist and dress industry, it was fourteen times as great. Moreover, in the period between 1923 and 1925, the value of products in the cloak, suit and skirt industry decreased by about 14 per cent, whereas in the dress industry there was practically no decrease. This is shown in the following set of figures.

Value of Products Manufactured 1914-1925

Year	Cloaks, suits and skirts	Waists, dresses and housedresses
1914	$229,459,000	171,607,000
1919	519,509,000	447,746,000
1921	401,306,000	410,558,000
1923	533,077,674	634,331,000
1925	[illegible]	633,576,000

The figures of the total value of product, as well as the figures of the value added by manufacture prove in the case of the cloak industry, as well as that of the entire women's garment industry (See article of Feb. 3) that a smaller and smaller number of workers are turning out an increasingly valuable product.

Decline in Comparative Importance

3. The comparative position of the cloak and suit industry can be measured by another index—by the value of products manufactured in the various branches of the industry. If we take 100 per cent for the total value of all brnches of the industry, we can estimate the comparative importance of each branch. On the basis of the census figures, we find the following:

Comparative Importance in Value of Products

Branch	1914	1919	1921	1923	1925
Entire Industry	100	100	100	100	100
Suits, Skirts, Cloaks	48.4	43.	39.2	36.4	35.7
Waists, Dresses, Wrappers and housedresses	36.3	37.	40.2	44.7	49.
Underwear and Petticoat	11.1	10.6	10.3	8.1	9.1
Miscellaneous—Others	5.5	9.4	10.3	9.8	6.2

(Note—Waists, dresses, wrappers and housedresses are here combined since the census early grouped waists and dresses, and since 1923 has been grouping dresses and housedresses together).

This table shows conclusively the drop of the cloak, suit and skirt industry from over 48 per cent to less than 36 per cent and the rise of the dress branch from 36 per cent to 49 per cent.

These figures of "Total value of manufactured products" are not to be confused with the figures of the amounts realized by their sale. One of the sore points in the industry is overproduction, and the beating down of selling prices by uncontrolled, cutthroat competition under the jobber—sub-manufacturer system.

Summary

1. The figures of the U. S. Census Bureau confirm conclusively the statement of the General Executive Board that the cloakmakers since 1921 have been suffering from economic crisis. Over one-third of their number have been forced entirely out of the industry, and the remaining two-thirds have been unemployed for greater portions of the year. Such figures as are available show a great increase in the number of establishments for this same period.

2. At the same time that the workers' ranks have thus diminished in number and in employment, the value of products has increased two fold. While we do not have the separate figures for the value added by manufacture, i. e. by the workers, for this branch of the industry, the figures for the entire industry would indicate that the greater part of this value of products was added in manufacture. One-third as many workers have turned out pr[illegible]ts of [illegible] greater value, although all of these products may not have been sold at that value due to competitive conditions in a chaotic market.

3. The manufacture of dresses has replaced that of cloaks as the most important branch of the ladies' garment industry. Differences in the nature of skill required, in the type of workers already drawn into the dress trade in wage standards and in unionization have deterred a theoretically possible flow from the cloak into the dress industry and a consequent preservation of the high union standards prevailing before the climax of the depression. A discussion of the stabilization of both these branches on the basis of such a directed flow has been suggested to the delegates of the forthcoming convention by the G. E. B.

ployers toward the workers' organization in the cloak industry, and, last but not least, for the broadly constructive viewpoint on industrial and labor matters of the distinguished Board of Referees in the Cleveland women's garment industry, Messrs. John R. McLane, Morris L. Cooke, and its chairman, Dr. Jacob M. Hollander.

Resolution

We, the workers of the firm of Sadowsky Costume, 225 West 37th Street (a dress shop) assembled in meeting, unanimously agree to give every possible moral and financial support to our Union, in its present effort to unionize the open shops. As our initial contribution, we are forwarding to the office the sum of $113.00. Similar contributions will be made weekly, as long as the present drive lasts.

We take this opportunity to declare our absolute confidence in the honesty and integrity of the officers of our Union, who are working tirelessly to place our organization on a solid foundation, overcoming heroically the tragic demoralization and chaos which the Communists had caused during their short "reign". We, at the same time, call upon every dressmaker working in the industry to back up our organization in its present effort, so that its broad reconstruction program may be carried to a successful conclusion.

MAX FINE, Shop Chairman.

Living-Saving-Cultural

By JAMES M. LYNCH

WHEN labor organized and became vocal there was agitation for higher wages. The demand was more or less chaotic and its success depended largely on the strength of the union in which the demand had expression. Something more of the necessities of life, not the luxuries or even the comforts, was the animating motive.

Then with the realization that wage earners were entitled to consideration in the matter of production over and above so many hours of labor at the least monetary reward, combined with the growing strength of labor united, and the intelligence that always follows realization of power, there came the demand for a living wage. The American standard of living, which has been difficult to define, was usually an ideal that was elusive and yet of value as a slogan. Better homes, more leisure, education for the children. Wages began to be the expression of an objective, the yearning for a better social status, a broader conception of liberty and equality.

Only recently Mr. Owen D. Young has been credited with the term "cultural wage." He does not explain it. "The profits of a concern," Mr. Young is quoted as saying, "should be distributed among the human beings devoting their lives to it, not men floating in and out. They all should share regardless of the positions they happen to occupy for the moment in the concern."

There are many sources of employment. In not all of them does the toiler have the opportunity of devoting his life. As a matter of fact, there are comparatively few where there may be continuous connection. In any philosophy which has for its objective the raising of those who toil to a higher plane, the possible beneficiaries must be considered as a whole. If the object of life is the pursuit of happiness there must be an equal chance to realize it. There may be failures, but they must not be foreordained. The wage earner is always thankful for good advice and efforts at assistance, but as a class he finds that he must work out his own salvation. He prospers, enjoys life, raises the general level of culture just to the extent that he is willing to help in the great task.

50 Girls Will Get Free Tuition in Barnard Summer School

The Barnard Summer School for Women in Industry will admit 50 New York City women workers to its six weeks course which will open on July 2, at Barnard College. The subjects offered are: Economics, History, Science, Psychology, Literature and English. Usually each student takes courses in Economics, English and one other subject.

Miss Ernestine Friedman, the Director, has announced that 50 women workers will be awarded scholarships. Only women working with the tools of their trade, and not in a supervisory capacity, are admitted. The scholarships include a complete summer school course and a great advantage in the arrangement by which the student live in their own homes.

Applicants are required to have had two years experience in industry and a sixth grade education or its equivalent. Those who wish to study this summer may apply to the Barnard Summer School office, 218 Madson Avenue, New York.

EDUCATIONAL COMMENT AND NOTES

Women Can Be Organized

Discussion at Conference on How to Organize the Unorganized Under Joint Auspices of the Labor College of Philadelphia and Central Labor Union

By FANNIA M. COHN

IT is quite some time that we have stopped asking, 'Can man be organized?" But we stil ask, "Can woman be organized? We still want to know whether our herculean efforts at woman's organization can be amply rewarded. The young woman's factory life is of short duration, we hear. The flapper is vain. She is destructive.

True, after marriage a girl is apt to leave the factory. But she becomes the wife of a worker, and the mother of workers. What an opportunity for her to utilize the knowledge of trade unionism she has acquired! How well she—the former union member—can enter into the spirit of her working family with an understanding that is priceless!

The flapper is vain. Trade unionism will just feed that vanity, but in a wholesome way. The wish for power deeply rooted in woman as well as in man, must lead even the most vain into organization that has given so much power to men, and must surely do the same for women. The trade union will fill out all that void that the "gay" life of the modern girl creates, and fill it out most advantageously. All this must be preached to the male members of our unions, at the central bodies of their organizations, and at the locals. Let man once look at the organizing of women workers as seriously as he ought to and one of the main difficulties impeding a powerfuul woman's trade union will be eliminated.

Already women have shown that they are not reluctant to take part in the trade union movement and that their participation is most effective. Mr. Chas. D. Cavanaugh of the Electrical Workers Union, who organized the West Lynn plant of the General Electric Company in the 1918 strike, states that about 40 per cent of the workers who participated were women. "The women were a big asset and did wonderful work.' This statement by Mr. Cavannaugh has been proven time and again in industries where women are employed in great numbers—such as the garment industry. They have not only stopped work when their union was refused recognition, but have carried on protracted and intense strikes, have born the sufferings entailed in such struggles. But more important; after the victory they succeeded in retaining their union in a fighting condition as a proper instrument for their protection. Such effective organization has been achieved in many locals of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union. Local No. 33 of the United Textile Workers at Salem, Mass., is composed chieffy of young women and despite the doubt of many as to the possibility of maintaining it, has existed without interruption for eight years.

Not only in our own country but throughout Europe, women have demonstrated their organized power. The united front of the English women's cooperative guilds against the government's Anti-Trust Union Bil, was an inspiring example to all women. The same is true in Germany, according to the report by Frau Kurfurst, president of a conference held at Kiel. The same is true in Belgium, with a special press for women in Flemish and French. The phenomenal growth of the American Workers' Education Movement is greatly due to women. Women in the rank and file of the unions—especially Jewish women, have been among the most ardent supporters of Workers' Education.

Already working men realize that trying to keep women in subordinate position at unskilled labor, as was done after the Industrial Revolution, cannot keep women out of industry. Such discrimination will only tend to swell the army of the unorganized workers.

But alas, old prejudices against women are still with us. We change more slowly than the institutions we are changing. Hence, the tardy growth of women's trade unions. Hence, the lingering echo of that almost obsolete, "Can women be organized?"

So far we have been ignorant of the tactics to use in atempting to organize women, ignorant of their psychology, afraid of the individualistic trend of their activities. Only slowly has it dawned on us that in the past women's activities were individualistic, for they were mostly spontaneous. Now women work in groups, delegating power to those among them capable of executing the collective wish. Only lately have we learned that the huge turnover in industries where women are employed is not a deterrent to organization. In spite of a large turnover, the women's dress locals in the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union had been built with permanent officers and a permanent treasury. Experience which has taught men has also enlightened their sisters.

So far we haven't learned the proper approach of the working woman. For she does differ from her brother in her atitude towards the solution of a problem. To one knowing the difficulties besetting any organizer, it is hard indeed to hand out suggestions, to state definitely what method will achieve results. But I dare suggest that women organizers can make an effective appeal to working women. Then, women's rise to leadership must prove a stimulant to the unorganized. Human and industrial elements confront us. The character of the group, its racial and social background. This must be well borne in mind. Then the locality, traditions, code of ethics, conception of what is proper, womanly conduct. No organizer will be successfull in a campaign before such a study is completed. Lack of such knowledge has, to my mind, hindered women's organizations heretofore.

Indeed, we are willing to learn. Hence, this conference, and the many conferences since the A. F. of L., 1924. Unfortunately, no definite plan has been formulated, to follow up the organization work that has been started. To my mind, we must concentrate on an *appeal to men* in their unions. Since organization has been man's work from time immemorial, man must be convinced of the desirability and possibility of organizing women.

An effective way to make this appeal to them is through the medium of Worker's Education,—a field in which women have greatly distinguished themselves. Women's achievements must speak, trumpet-tongued, to men. Workers' Education reveals to woman her inportance in industry, and gives her confidence. Few of our talkers on the importance of organizing women, have made a thorough study of the problem. A comprehensive work on the subject is a study by Dr. Theresa Wolfson, "The Woman Worker and the Trade Unions."

The intelligent organizer has learned that an organization campaign should have two phases—the general and the specific. In the preparation of literature, for instance, the problem with which all working women are confronted should be touched on, as well as those in the specific industry invaded at the time being. Limited space keeps me from expatiating on this. The general appeal tends to overcome time-honored prejudices; the specific appeal, dealing with conditions in a particular industry, comes much closer home. The intelligent oranizer finds that the circulars with questions and a few answers, stimulate independent thought; that central location and coziness of a meeting hall for women must not be ignored; that the appeal to the girl's desire for more money to pay for the laundry, and to have more leisure, to pay mother enough to get help, is a very practical argument. The new organizer is sure to make much of woman's desire for power, and for the approval of fathers and brothers and sweethearts. The new organizer will make much of the flapper's freedom from prejudices, of her new acquirements, her readiness "to try anything once". The awakened new organizer, plus workers' education, plus awakened consciousness of the men union members to the vital importance of women's organization, must bring about impregnable unions of both men and women.

Local 41 Sociable and Dance a Fine Affair

On Washington's Birthday, Wednesday, February 22, several hundreds members of the Tuckers, Pleater and Hemstitchers Union Local 41, I. L. G. W. U. came to the People's House for a dance and sociable. They were there from early afternoon until 7 p. m. dancing to the music of the excellent orchestra, and enjoying the refreshments which the hospitality commitee was kept busy serving.

Many expressed the opinion that this affair would be the talk of the day in the shops. Here was another proof that social activities are most important to a union, especially when it is composed of young people.

The affair was arranged by the Educational Department and Local 41. The excelent spirit that prevailed in the hall was in no small degree due to the hospitality committee which consisted of Brothers Picello, Brown, Krigstein, Karp and O'Connel, and Sisters Esther Pirschitz, Margaret Altman and Esther Shane.

Weekly Educational Calendar

WASHINGTON IRVING HIGH SCHOOL, ROOM 530

Saturday, March 3

1.30 P. M. Dr. H. J. Carman—The Rise of American Civilization, based on on the book by Charles and Mary Beard; a course of five lessons.

P. S. 11, 314 WEST 21st STREET, Between 8th and 9th Avenues

Tuesdays

6.30 P. M. Physical training, social and folk dancing.

7.30 P. M. Swimming in pool—under competent instructors. Bring one-piece grey bathing suit, cap and towel.

COOPERATIVE HALL, 268 PARKER AVENUE, CLIFTON, N. J.

Saturday, March 3

8 P. M.—Social and Dance for Hand Embroidery Workers, Local 72, Passaic. Valley Rose Serenaders. Tickets 50 cents, including wardrobe.

PHILADELPHIA, 52 NORTH 10 STREET

Monday Evenings

Dr. Wright—Contemporary Literature.

Friday, March 9

8 P.M.—UNITY REUNION DANCE IN PHILADELPHIA. Labor Institute, 810 Locust Street. For information and tickets apply Local 50, 52 N. 10th Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

The Rise of American Civilization

Based on the Rise of American Civilization, by Charles and Mary Beard—Course Given in Our Workers' University, Saturdays, 1:30 P. M.

Dr. H. J. Carman gave an introduction to his course on The Rise of American Civilization last Saturday afternoon. His discussion is based on the book written by Professor Charles and Mrs. Mary Beard.

The first session will be given Saturday, March 3, at 1.30 p. m. in Washington Irving High School, room 530. The course will consist of four lectures and will be continued weekly at the same place and time.

Recreation Class Every Tuesday 6.30 P. M. in P. S. 11

A group of our members meets every Tuesday at 6.30 p. m. in P. S. 11, 314 West 21st Street, for physical training and recreation. From 6.30 to 7.30 they have exercises, social and folk dancing. At 7.30 they have swimming lessons in the pool. All activities are under the direction of competent instructors. For the pool a one piece grey bathing suit, cap and towel are required.

Admission is free to our members, except ten cents for the use of the swimming pool.

Come and join this group and spend a hour a week in physical development. Get the habit of daily exercise in your own home, and keep young and cheerful.

The Tyranny of Courts

By NORMAN THOMAS

THE whole nation has an interest in the precedent that may be set by this appeal of the I. R. T. subway operating company in New York for a higher fare as well as the appeal of the same company against any attempt by the A. F. of L. to organize its workers. The I. R. T. is now trying to set aside through the federal courts the 5 cent fare as confiscatory in spite of the fact that it is solemnly fixed in the contract between the company as operator and the city as owner. Moreover, under that contract the I. R. T. is making money. It is hard to see how any court can listen to such a plea as the company presents.

Under no proper theory of law or the functions of the judiciary are the courts entitled to the power they now frequently claim in the matter of injunctions and rate setting. To claim it is sheer judicial usurpation. It is, moreover, usurpation by the least satisfactory branch of our government. And we say this with no particular enthusiasm for the executive or legislative branches.

Consider the facts. Justice for the poor is a tragedy. William H. Taft himself has admittted that criminal justice in America is a disgrace. Our courts are well-nigh hopelessly bound with precedent. The lower courts especially are subject to direct political and financial pressure. They are repeatedly used by clever lawyers to block and not further justice, as, for instance, by Max Steuer in blocking the investigation into the Queensboro sewer scandals in N. Y. The best lawyers themselves admit the sad estate of their profession and the courts. Yet it is these courts which cannot properly handle their own jobs which arrogate to themselves rights of rate regulation and injunction powers which no courts ought to have. Here is a political issue vital to democracy.

It looks as if the American people had had the energy and intelligence to put a big crimp in this $800,000,000 first installment on the maddest and most criminal big navy program yet devised. Cautious Calvin has heard the rumbling and agrees to a cut in everything but cruisers. Yet it is precisely these twenty-five cruisers at $17,000,000 apiece which we need least for defense of our own shores. They are, as Admiral Plunkett blurted out, useful only for war with England or for challenging her mastery of the seas. Keep every Congressman you know of bombarded with protests against this naval race into the next war.

NATIONALIZE THE COAL MINES

Because a Congressional investigation of the coal situation which should include Colorado as well as Pennsylvania, Ohio and West Virginia may serve to make vivid that misery of men, women and children which is one of the deepest and most pitiable disgraces to our civilization we favor it. But what a tragedy it is that we should need more investigations when we have already had so many. It is time for action. And no action in the bituminous field can possibly be effective which is not based on the nationalization of the mines as an essential first condition for establishing proper relations with labor and ending the present chaotic waste.

Not long ago we critized the Copeland-Jacobstein bill which is intended to permit or encourage amalgamation in the bituminous coal field. We based our criticism on the meager report of the bill in the daily papers. It is fair to say that the whole bill is better than the despatches would indicate, for as a condition of permitting amalgamation a valuable fact finding agency is automatically to be set up and the Secretary of Commerce is to be charged with the duty of protecting the public and labor from exploitation. The bill, as some of its friends argue, is probably better than nothing. But not much. It is ridiculous that we should go on assuming that the public cannot be educated to a real program but we must be tricked along with doubtful palliatives. If we were in Congress we might vote for this bill, in the doubtful event that it ever comes to a vote, but we should ridicule the idea that it is the efficient way to cure the coal industry of its terrible sickness or even to educate the public to a more fundamental remedy.

SOME QUESTIONS FOR MR. ROCKEFELLER

By contrast with other oil men and business magnates who applaud Col. Stewart's defiance of the people, John D. Rockefeller, Jr., looks like an honest man. Nevertheless his testimony and his actions in general raise some questions not flattering either to his conscience or his intelligence. For instance, what kind of a story did he swallow from Col. Stewart which originally made him accept without protest this $3,000,000 fake sale which was an injury not only to oil consumers and oil workers, but even to company stockholders. And how in the name of Colorado, Bayonne, N. J., and a score of other places did he get the idea that his father and the Standard Oil Company had done so much for the workers? His constant cry that he is only an investor and a minority stockholder in these various companies and therefore not primarily responsible for their conduct is, by the way, a beautiful illustration of the almost complete moral irresponsibility of the present capitalist system. If the Rockefellers are'nt responsible, who are?

NICARAGUA AND SOME GENTLEMEN FROM KANSAS

Senator Capper of Kansas introduced a good resolution looking to the outlawry of war. I wrote him to congratulate him on it and to ask how far he thought the Administration's Nicarauguan war was consistent with his resolution. He replies that he is "not yet convinced that we could consistently stay out of Nicaragua" and quotes American minister Eberhardt, "a citizen of Salina, Kansas" as saying that "fully 90 per cent of the people of Nicaragua want the United States to stay on the job." Well, maybe. But on the very day I received this letter I read a statement by the New York Times correspondent in Nicaragua that American planters in a certain district were nervous because of the small force of marines there to protect them. Sandino was credited with the support of a big majority of the "lower classes", at least in that district. Whether he has it or not since when is it the business of boys from Kansas and other states to waste their lives and our money on a war which is far more surely in the interest of a few planters and investors than of the Nicaraguan people who ought to manage their own affairs. And how hypocritical is any talk of outlawing war unless we show good faith by outlawing imperialism.

Pressmen and Sheet Metal Workers Endorse Union Health Center

By PAULINE M. NEWMAN

Dean Alfred Owre of the Columbia University School of Dental and Oral Surgery states that "Dentistry now is in reach of only the wealthy, or those served in charitable institutions." This statement of Mr. Owre is interesting to those of us who have known that all along. We have always said that for the working people there seems to be no choice—either the high paid dentist or the charitable institution. He cannot, of course, go to the high priced dentist. Neither does he want to go to the charity clinic. He is, therefore, pretty much forced to neglect his teeth until such time as their condition force him to attend to them.

It is timely, in view of what Mr. Owre has stated, to call attention of the organized men and women of this city to services rendered by the Union Health Center. The Dental Department is equipped with 23 chair units. It has an X-ray laboratory, and a group of competent dentists. The fees are moderate, since the charges are based on cost of labor, material and overhead expenses. It is not a profit making institution.

The Medical Department, too, is equipped to take care of the needs of union workers. It is with this in mind, that the writer addressed several union meetings last week, and the annoucement that the Union Health Center has opened its doors to them and their families was received at these meetings with a great deal of enthusiasm.

They need such a place. Their families need the services the Health Center can give them. All union members and their [illegible] therefore, invited to come and see both departments. The medical clinic is at 131 East 17th Street, and the dental clinic—at 222 4th Avenue, cor. of 18th Street. The hours of the former are from 11 to 1.30 p. m. and from 5 to 7 p. m., while the dental department is open from 10 a. m. to 7 p. m.

Greatness—What Is It?

Last Monday, Pioneer Youth Forum held its February meeting, at 3 W. 16. Dr. E. C. Lindeman led the discussion, which was—"Greatness—is it a Personal or a Social Quality?" About 30 Pioneer Youth members were present and 10 adults guests. At the close of the hour, Dr. Lindeman told the youngsters, "You have a clear-eyed candor that I find stimulating and unusual."

Bruno Lasker will lead the March Forum and Dr. Lindeman will lead the one after that.

New Books

Our Educational Department continues to render useful service to our members in helping them select books to read and collect. Lately very interesting books have appeared on social and economic problems, and also fiction. Some of the these books we can offer our members at much reduced prices. We will be glad to have them visit our Education Department at 3 West 16th Street

Unity House Is Just As Beautiful in Winter As in Summer —Pay It a Visit and Convince Yourself!

DRESSMAKERS

MEMBERS OF LOCAL 22, I. L. G. W. U.

Regular Section Meetings

will be held

Thursday, March 8, 1928

at 7:30 P. M.

in the following places:

BRONX:
MCKINLEY SQUARE GARDENS, 1258 Boston Road

DOWN TOWN:
BEETHOVEN HALL, 210 East 5th Street

BROWNSVILLE:
LABOR LYCEUM, 219 Sackman Street

Very important report in connection with the present organization campaign will be discussed.

These section meetings will meet hereafter regularly every 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month.

EXECUTIVE BOARD LOCAL 22.

A. DASHKOFF, Chairman J. SPIELMAN, Secretary

Buy Union Stamped Shoes

We ask all members of organized labor to purchase shoes bearing our Union Stamp on the sole, inner-sole or lining of the shoe. We ask you not to buy any shoes unless you actually see this Union Stamp.

BOOT & SHOE WORKERS UNION UNION STAMP Factory

Boot & Shoe Workers' Union

Affiliated with the American Federation of Labor
246 SUMMER STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

COLLIS LOVELY, General President
CHARLES L. BAINE, General Secretary-Treasurer

The Week In Local 10

At a well attended meeting held on Monday, February 27th, three important matters were brought up before the membership. After a lengthy discussion the members of Local 10 unanimously concurred in the decision of the shop chairman meeting, which was held on Saturday, February 25th, to permit the workers of the cloak and dress industry to work on the coming two Saturdays, namely March 3 and March 10, and that one-half of their earnings for these two Saturdays go to the Joint Board in order to help relieve the financial difficulties in which the Union now finds itself.

Another important matter that came up at the meeting was the acceptance of the resignation of Brother Sam B. Shenker, who has been connected with Local 10 for the past ten years, having served it in various capacities. The third matter was the encouraging report submitted to the members regarding the splendid success of the Old Age Fund, and the arrangements for the ball and entertainment to be held very shortly in the Concourse Plaza.

Decision Regarding Permission to Work

Brother Julius Hochman, General Manager of the Joint Board, who was invited by Bro. Dubinsky to address the cutters' meeting, spoke at length regarding the activities of the union during the last few weeks.

Manager Hochman also informed the cutters of the financial difficulties with which the Joint Board has been confronted in the last few months. Tens of thousands of dollars are needed in order to continue transacting business for the Union. Up to now, it has been difficult for the Union to raise the necessary funds. In order to continue its present efforts, that is, to organize the unorganized, and to eliminate violations on the part of the workers, as on the part of the employers, funds must be raised immediatley. It is impossible for the Union to go on any further with its present resources.

For this purpose a shop chairman meeting was called on Saturday last, February 25, where a recommendation to work on two Saturdays was unanimously accepted. While some of the shop chairmen were of the opinion that a flat assessment would be preferable, they all nevertheless realized that in order to levy a flat assessment a referendum would have to take place first, and such an assessment could not be collected before next season. Because the funds are needed immediately, they all accepted the decision to work on the next two Saturdays, as the best proposition. Some of the cutters were also in favor of levying a flat assessment, but after a lengthy discussion, the proposition of the shop chairmen was unanimously approvel.

The cutters, therefore, are permitted to work on these two Saturdays, for which they are to receive double pay, as the employers' association always conceded that the cutters should receive double pay. It is a tradition that has existed for over thirty years. Cutters were never permitted to work on Saturdays under any conditions. Even the Joint Board, on some occasions, permitted the rest of the workers to work because of the intervention of Jewish holidays, the cutters were always an exception, insisting on the old tradition not to work on Saturdays. However, in an emergency when an employer was given permission to work on a Saturday, there was never a question as to double pay.

This decision permitting the cutters to work on the two Saturdays in question is an emergency case. It is being done for the purpose of helping the Union in its present financial crisis, and the cutters, as loyal men, will help the Union, even to the extent of breaking this old tradition. It is doubtful whether an employer would raise the question as to double pay. It was even so indicated in the "Women's Wear" of Monday, February 27, where it was stated that "It is learned in reliable quarters that one craft will get double pay for Saturday's work." However, in the event the employers make an attempt to take advantage of the cutters, and gain a bargain for themselves, it would be most advisable for the cutters not to concede to such propositions, but instead to consult with the office. Man. Dubinsky will be reached at the office all day Friday, where cutters should apply for information regarding this matter.

An Hour for the Miners

Out of this Saturday work, one hour's wages will be set aside for the relief of the striking miners. The miners are now on a strike for over a year. The Manager pointed out to the members at the meeting last Monday that the Miners' Union was the first labor arganization to come to the aid of the International when it ousted the Communists from office. At that time, the miners themselves were engaged in a strike. They gave the International a generous loan, although they were in need of money themselves.

It is, therefore, the duty of every conscientious member to do his utmost to help make these two working Saturdays a success, in order that the necessary funds be raised for the Union and for the benefit of the striking miners.

Progress of Old Age Fund

The Manager reported that about $10,000 has been raised so far for the Old Age Fund. The greater part of it came from the employers. So far, the cutters from about sixty shops contributed at about $5 each. He explained to the cutters that they would have to show more interest in this Fund as it is being raised for the aged unemployed cutters in the industry, and it is to the interest of the cutters to help make it a success. In order to approach every cutter on this subject, a special letter was sent out to the membership last week, enclosing a contract and return envelope, appealing to them to make their contributions. Many responded immediately, and many more are expected during the week. The cutters were again reminded at last Monday night's meeting not to delay their response in this important matter.

The following two were among the first to have returned their contracts with the following notes: Mr. J. Luttinger, No. 6232a, sent a $5 check stating on his contract, "Kindly put in a complimentary ad for me in the way you best see fit. I wish I could send $500. Mr. Alexander Schwimmer, No. 5212, sent a $3 check stating "I have already contributed $5 with the cutters of the shop. This is my personal contribution." The Manager also mentioned that before going to the meeting Brother Nagler and he had visited several employers, having spent about two hours, and succeeded in collecting about $500, while Brother Perimutter spent about two hours during the same day and collected $600. The names of the contributors will be given in the next issue of JUSTICE.

Brothers Shenker, Nagler, Perimutter, Fruhling and Hansel were very active in soliciting complimentary ads, and it is due to their efforts that this fund is going to exceed greatly the sum originally expected. With the help of each and every member we shall be able to reach the $15,000 mark.

Sam B. Shenker Resigns from Local 10

At the last meeting of the Executive Board, Brother Sam B. Shenker submitted the following resignation which was accepted by the Board and concurred in at the last membership meeting.

"The Executive Board of Local 10
I. L. G. W. U.

Dear Sirs & Brothers:

It is probably well known to the Executive Board and to the officers of Local 10 that at the expiration of my last term, about December 1927, I was contemplating not to accept nomination for re-election. However, due to persuasion by the officers and the Executive Board, I was prevailed upon to accept again. In accepting, however, I made it clear at the time that in all probability my tenure of office would be limited to a temporary term.

"These contemplations were prompted by the fact that my family life compelled me to come to this decision. My life is no longer my own, to do with as I please. Service in the Labor movement has been my ideal, but I have reached a period in life when I must disengage myself from any further service in it.

"Therefore, it is with a feeling of deep regret that I herewith tender my resignation as business agent of Local 10, to take effect at once, February 23.

"I am resigning as an officer in view of the fact that I have a certain business opportunity under consideration.

"My statement regarding my regret in resigning is based on the fact that Local 10 has meant so much to me in the course of my emerging into manhood, for I started my activities as an officer of Local 10 at a young age. In the course of my ten years of service as a full time officer, I have secured advantages, spiritual and intellectual, that even an advance schooling could not give.

"In closing, permit me to extend my warmest thanks to the membership for the splendid opportunities it has offered me, by and through the honors conferred upon me. I want to thank the Executive Board and the members for the confidence they have vested in me in the course of my service, and last, but not least, I wish to express my gratitude to Brothers Dubinsky, Nagler, Fruhling, Perimutter and Hansel for their cooperation and warm friendship. I should like to enumerate by name all those whose companionship meant so much to me in the more than ten years I spent as an officer but space does not permit it.

"It is needless for me to wish you success in the attainment of the goal which you, as a workers' organization, are striving for. I can only repeat that I regret my parting from you as an officer of this organization.

Fraternally yours,
SAM. B. SHENKER.
No. 5057."

After submitting his resignation, Shenker came in for a few days to turn over the office to the manager, and the Executive Board appointed a committee, consisting of Brothers Dubinsky, Nagler, Jacobs and Stoller to look for a suitable man to fill the vacancy. It is expected that at the next general membership meeting a recommendation will be brought in for the members to act upon.

Brother Shenker has served this organization since 1917. First he served in the capacity of editor of the "Ladies' Garment Cutter," a weekly issued at the time by Local 10. He then served as Manager of the Dress Division, at that time succeeding the late Israel Lewin. In 1921 the department managers were abolished and instead one manager was elected. Since then, Brother Shenker served in the capacity of Assistant Manager. This office he held up to the day of his resignation. He was in good standing with the men of the Dress Division. He was well acquainted with the employers in that branch, and was a great help to the office, due to his experience. His resignation is considered as a loss to the organization by the officers, as well as by many of the active members. It is now about a year since Shenker had made up his mind to step out of the Union and to take up in a new field. While we regret his resignation from Local 10, nevertheless, we wish him success in whatever undertaking he will turn to.

Cutters' Union Local 10!

ATTENTION

A SPECIAL and REGULAR Meeting will be held on Monday Evening, March 12, at 7:30 P. M. at Arlington Hall, 23 St. Mark's Place.

The following is the special order of business:

1) Nomination of delegates for the 19th biennial convention, to be held in Boston during month of May.
2) Election of Election Board.
3) Election of Business Agent for Local 10, to fill the vacancy created by resignation of Sam B. Shenker.

Don't Fail to Attend this Meting
and Have Your Books Stamped.

NOTICE TO ALL CUTTERS

According to a decision of the shop chairmen, at a meeting held on Saturday, February 25, and approved at the membership meeting on Monday, February 27, the workers in the Cloak and Dress Industry, including cutters, are permitted to work the following two Saturdays, March 3 and March 10.

One half of the earnings of each of these days is to go to the workers, and the other half is a tax for the Joint Board. Of this, one hour's wages will be given for the relief of the striking miners.

Cutters are to receive double pay on these two Saturdays. Any difficulties they may confront on this score, or any information desired regarding this matter, will be furnished by the Manager of Local 10.

Cutters, it is up to you to help the Joint Board in its effort to raise funds for organization work, in order to maintain union conditions and improve working standards in the trade.

For information, call Algonquin 3292